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SECURITY INFORMATION

7 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Action Taken under Post-Mortem Procedures to Reduce Intelligence Deficiencies in National Intelligence Estimates

This summarizes for the record, as of 30 June 1952, the action taken in our recent attempts to regularize the systematic review of estimates, after their completion, for the purpose of reducing deficiencies in subsequent estimates on the same subject.

A. Action Completed by O/NE

1. The Director of Central Intelligence after consultation with the Intelligence Advisory Committee approved a "Procedure for Reducing Intelligence Deficiencies in National Intelligence Estimates," dated 3 June 1952. (See TAB "A")

2. NIE-35/1, "Probable Developments in Indochina through Mid-1952," published 3 March 1952.

a. On 17 April 1952, O/NE sent to AD/IC a memorandum, subject: Suggested Measures which Might Improve US Intelligence on Indochina. (See TAB "B")

b. O/NE, on 18 April 1952, sent to the IAC agencies, an "IAC List of Intelligence Weaknesses Revealed in the Preparation of NIE-35/1." *No action was asked specifically of the agencies in view of the need to schedule NIE-35/2. O/NE then incorporated the substance of the findings of the IAC representatives in terms of reference of NIE-35/2. Contributions of the IAC agencies to NIE-35/2, deviled on 20 June, should fill some of these gaps.

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B. Action Pending

1. NIE-60, "Civil Defense in the USSR," published 30 April 1952.

Status: Following preliminary talks held by DD/I with AD/SI and AD/RR to ascertain CIA interest and capabilities in this field, O/NE circulated to the IAC agencies, on 26 June, its Statement of Findings and Conclusions.* O/NE will hold a meeting on 9 July, attended by the IAC representatives, and representatives from O/SI, O/RR, and O/IC, primarily to:

- a. Ascertain the degree of importance which agencies attach to the subject of civil defense in the USSR; and,
- b. Explore the capabilities of the various agencies to pursue this subject systematically, assuming its importance.

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* See TAB "F")

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2. SE-27, "Probable Effects of Various Possible Courses of Action with Respect to Communist China," published 5 June 1952.

Status: On 26 June, O/NE circulated to the IAC agencies a "Statement of Gaps and Recommendations" on which the IAC representatives are scheduled to meet on 15 July. (See TAB "G")



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

18 April 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Colonel Gerald F. Lillard, G-2
Captain Ray Malpass, ONI
Colonel Edward H. Porter, AFOIN
Colonel S. M. Lansing, JIG

SUBJECT : Post-Mortem on Intelligence Weaknesses Revealed
in the Preparation of NIE-35/1, "Probable
Developments in Indochina through Mid-1952,"
dated 4 March 1952

ENCLOSURES : a. Draft covering memorandum transmitting
List of Weaknesses to IAC
b. IAC List of Weaknesses Revealed in the
Preparation of NIE-35/1

1. Enclosures a and b have been redrafted pursuant to
the discussion at the last meeting of the IAC representatives
on the Post-Mortem of NIE-35/1.

2. Will you please give these drafts a final review and
telephone this office before close of business Monday, 21 April,
if you feel these documents do not conform to the consensus
reached by your representatives.

3. Please note that Enclosure a would serve as the covering
memorandum for forwarding to the IAC the main findings of the
IAC representatives attached here as Enclosure b.

Executive Secretary

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

18 April 1952

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SUBJECT : Post-Mortem on Intelligence Weaknesses Revealed in the Preparation of NIE-35, "Probable Developments in Indochina through Mid-1952," dated 4 March 1952

ENCLOSURE: IAC List of Intelligence Weaknesses Revealed in the Preparation of NIE-35/1

1. The IAC representatives have examined intelligence weaknesses revealed in the preparation of NIE-35/1. This post-mortem, the first of its kind, has been a trial effort designed to examine whether such a procedure might be of benefit to subsequent National Estimates ~~on the same subject.~~ The IAC representatives agree that this pilot undertaking has been worthwhile.

2. The principal summarized conclusions reached at the post-mortem sessions concerning NIE-35 are, in order of priority:



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3. Enclosure A is an agreed list of intelligence weaknesses. These items are not intended to constitute intelligence requirements in themselves; rather, they are general areas where the IAC representatives feel that NIE-35/1 suffered from lack of adequate reliable intelligence.

4. It is recommended that the IAC take the following action:

a. Approve the conducting of post-mortems to consider intelligence weaknesses revealed in the preparation of National Intelligence Estimates, [and formally authorize the Assistant Director for National Estimates and the IAC agency representatives to establish the necessary procedures along the lines followed for NIE-35/1;]

b. Approve the submission to ^(for notation) it of future agreed post-mortem conclusions and lists of intelligence weaknesses, ~~similar to the present document and attachment; and, e~~

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- c. Note the attached list of intelligence weaknesses and refer it to CIA for discussion with appropriate IAC agency representatives to determine specific action indicated.

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27 June 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR
COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

SUBJECT : CIA/SO Yugoslav UDE Exchange

REFERENCE: Your memorandum dated 20 May 1952

1. Attached are the O/NE findings of gaps in our intelligence on Yugoslavia as these were revealed during the course of the production of NIE-29/2, "Probable Developments in Yugoslavia and the Likelihood of Attack upon Yugoslavia, through 1952," published 4 January 1952.

2. We realize these are not specifically tailored for action under subject arrangement, but to the extent that additional information can be supplied on any part of these requirements we will be able to improve our next estimate on Yugoslavia.

cc: AD/IC

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

4 April 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Colonel Gerald F. Lillard, G-2
Captain Ray Malpass, ONI
Colonel Edward H. Porter, AFOIN
Colonel S. M. Lansing, JIG

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SUBJECT : Post-Mortem on Intelligence Gaps Revealed in
the Preparation of NIE-29/2

1. It is the opinion of our staff that NIE-29/2, "Probable Developments in Yugoslavia and the Likelihood of Attack upon Yugoslavia through 1952," suffered from insufficient intelligence on a number of questions, and that subsequent estimates concerning Yugoslavia would benefit from any improvement that could be made in filling these intelligence gaps. We suggest the attached questions as the agenda for a meeting between your representatives and our staff. This list is not intended to be definitive, and any suggestions the IAC representatives may wish to make at the meeting will be welcomed.

2. It is requested that your representatives meet with us at 10:00 Wednesday, 9 April, in Room 146 South Building.

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Executive Secretary

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NB our requirement to S/O to
Serve on Jugs.

What are we doing. 1

NB our PM on NIE29/1

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

26 June 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

Colonel Gerald F. Lillard, G-2
Captain Ray Malpass, ONI
Colonel Jack E. Thomas, AFOIII-2A
Colonel S. M. Lansing, JIG

SUBJECT : Post-Mortem on NIE-60, "Civil Defense in
the USSR"

I. Statement of Findings

1. NIE-60, published on 30 April 1952, represents the first comprehensive survey on the subject made by US intelligence.

2. During the preparation of this estimate, it developed that no one agency or office was assuming overall responsibility for this subject, and that only bits and pieces of uncollated information were available in any one agency. Consequently, the IAC agencies based the estimate largely on a draft that was already being prepared by the Office of Scientific Intelligence, CIA. O/SI had some familiarity with technical and scientific aspects of the problem and had in its possession a body of other information on which it was able to draw even though much of this information did not fall within its normal charter. By this means, and with the aid of the other IAC agencies, the estimate was finally completed.

3. In addition, the estimate revealed that no agency had useful information on important aspects, notably the current tempo, nature, and state of readiness of Soviet civil defense activities, and whether and to what extent the USSR was taking specific precautions against atomic and BW attack. While the difficulties in collection of such intelligence are formidable, its lack appears to derive in part from the absence, up to this time, of a single responsible agency charged with the duty of seeking to improve collection. [REDACTED]

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II. Conclusions

4. O/NE believes the subject of civil defense in the USSR is of sufficient importance to the preparation of future estimates on the Soviet Union to warrant action by the IAC agencies to insure systematic processing of relevant information.

5. Since charter responsibilities for this subject are now indefinite if not non-existent, an exploration of capabilities in this field is in order.

III. Action

6. We propose to hold a meeting primarily to:

- a. Ascertain the degree of importance which agencies attach to the subject of civil defense in the USSR; and,
- b. Explore the capabilities of the various agencies to pursue this subject systematically, assuming its importance.

7. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if a representative, qualified to state the position of your agency on the above points, would meet with us at 10:00 Wednesday, 9 July, in Room 146 South Building.

D/Asst. Director/Adm.
National Estimates

cc: DD/I
AD/SI
AD/RR
AD/IC

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

26 June 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR:

[REDACTED]
Colonel Gerald F. Lillard, G-2
Captain Ray Malpass, ONI
Colonel Jack E. Thomas, AFOIN-2A
Colonel S. M. Lansing, JIG

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SUBJECT : Statement of Intelligence Gaps Revealed in
SE-27, "Probable Effects of Various Possible
Courses of Action with Respect to Communist
China"

REFERENCE : Procedure for Reducing Intelligence Deficiencies
in NIE's dated 3 June 1952

1. The attached draft statement of Intelligence Gaps
revealed in process of producing SE-27 is submitted for review.

2. It is requested that IAC representatives meet at
10:00 Tuesday, 2 July, in Room 146 South Building, to discuss
this statement.

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